

TINKER PROPOSAL

HOW TO WRITE A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

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Chair, Tinker Award Committee
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WELCOME TO TO THE TINKER WORKSHOP!



WHAT DOES A TINKER GRANT FUND?

- Round-trip airfare to your research site
- or
- Travel costs for vehicle use (for those who drive to research site—ex., Mexico border region)
 - And other documentable travel costs: lodging, meals, or other costs
 - Itemized budget is submitted with proposal

No Tinker funds for conferences, workshops or presentations

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Master's or Pre-dissertation PhD graduate students in any discipline at UA
- Conducting field research in Spanish- or Portuguese-speaking country of Latin America or the Caribbean (Belize, Haiti, & Puerto Rico usually excluded, but will be considered this year with non-Tinker funding)
- 2018 awardees are not eligible for the 2019 round


WHO DECIDES?

A faculty committee representing different disciplines makes the award decisions

Committee chairs will notify applicants of decisions by early April



BEFORE THEY GO, AWARDEES MUST:

- **Take and pass the CITI exam (if Human Subjects requirements apply)**
 - **Submit an application for IRB (Hum. Subjects) and obtain IRB approval**
 - **Submit all required University travel paperwork (to be discussed at the pre-departure meeting)**
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WHEN THEY COME BACK, AWARDEES MUST:

- Give a presentation at and participate in the one-day Tinker Symposium in October 2019
- Provide a written report and other materials to LAS upon return including at least two photos of you in the field.



APPLICATION


Application: <http://las.arizona.edu/tinker>

Deadline: Due Fri., March 15, 2019 by 12 noon via email
to:


SBS-las@email.arizona.edu



Your application includes:

- ✓ Application form
 - ✓ Proposal narrative
 - ✓ Copies of transcripts
 - ✓ Language proficiency
 - ✓ Letter from advisor
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Language Proficiency

- Native speaker? Check the box and you're good to go
 - 300-level or higher language instruction in relevant language?—check the box, good to go
 - Special training?—ex. Returned Peace Corps—check with Clea or Dr. Wilder—probably okay
 - None of the above, call Spanish & Portuguese to ask how to get a language proficiency appointment and bring your form along to get signature
 - If you have limited language but plan to improve it, say so (this does not replace language proficiency requirement, however)
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Budget

- Make a clear budget request for RT airfare (or mileage) and document it (e.g., Expedia quote), as well as lodging and food.

Other sources of funding

- List all your other actual or potential sources of funding (ex., SBSRI, GPSC, association)

****Note if you have had a Tinker award before, here or elsewhere, and year****

Letter of recommendation

- Should be from your advisor or a committee member (not job supervisor or congressperson)
- Give them materials asap (CV, draft statement, highlights they should mention about you)
- Advisor letter very important part of your package—make it easy for them to say great things about you

PROPOSAL ELEMENTS

4- page NARRATIVE:

Introduction

Interesting narrative “hook” to engage reader’s interest

Sufficient background to understand the research problem

Research Question

Clearly state your research question(s) and sub-questions


Hypotheses (if applicable)


Significance

Answer “why should we care” question

Broader impacts



- **Justification of Study Site**
 - Why is this the best place to research your question?
 - **Brief Literature Review**
 - Situate your research within the key theoretical & empirical literature
 - What debates does your research engage with?
 - Demonstrate good grasp of literature and seminal work
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- **Methods**
 - Identify and describe your methods
 - Be as specific as possible, space permitting
 - Be sure methods are feasible
 - **Timeline**
 - Carrying out methods
 - Feasibility
 - **Institutional Affiliation or Support**
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Good quick guide to proposal writing:

“The Art of Writing Proposals”—Social Science Research Council (google it!)



TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL:


- **Engaging narrative**
 - avoid jargon
 - define technical terms
 - **Scholarly contribution**
 - make clear why/how this research is key to your career goals
 - **Clear significance & impacts**
 - **Limit and delimit your scope of research**
 - is it feasible with your contacts? With your timeline?
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- **Methods**
 - Have you made clear in concise fashion precisely what you're going to do?
 - Have you made clear why you need to go to South America/Caribbean/Mexico to do it?
 - Do your methods actually answer your research questions?
 - **Access and Contacts**
 - Have you made clear what contacts you have or are currently making?
 - Do you have permissions you need (e.g., archives/archaeology/schools)
 - Have you provided evidence (email printout) of institutional affiliation?
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- **Ethical considerations**

- Have you shown you've thought through the ethical implications of your work?
- Are you planning to work with vulnerable populations (e.g., children, the ill, pregnant women, elderly populations, prisoners, detainees, victims of abuse or violence)?
- Does your research potentially expose you or your subjects to any kind of danger?



- **Feasibility**
 - Can this realistically be done as proposed?
 - **Multiple objectives**
 - If you are combining this project with an internship, and/or language study, make that very clear, esp. in timeline
 - Tinker project alone requires a minimum of 21 days full-time in field research
 - Most projects are 3-6 weeks in the field
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IMPORTANT DATES

- Application and all Materials due: Friday, March 15th, 2019 by 12pm
 - Submit Application to SBS-las@email.Arizona.edu
 - Awardees Notified by: Friday, April 5th, 2019
 - Pre-Departure Financials Orientation (Mandatory): Friday, April 12th, 2019 at 2:30pm, Marshall 284.
 - Travel must be completed by: August 20th, 2019
 - Summary Report and Evaluation Form Due: September 3rd, 2019.
 - Tinker Symposium (Mandatory): Thursday, October 24th, 2019
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Questions: Check FAQ's first

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**Buena suerte/Boa Sorte! Submit by March 15, 2019– 12
noon!**

